



AMERICAN OBSERVER

News and Issues—With Pros and Cons

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Here and Abroad

People—Places—Events

THE IDLEWILD AIRPORT

New York City hopes to make great improvements in its International Airport (Idlewild). Plans call for a new 3-story main terminal 11 blocks long, with restaurants and stores; 9 smaller terminals; and a hotel with 300 rooms. Present terminals can discharge or take on passengers from 29 airships at one time. With the new facilities, Idlewild will be able to serve 140 planes at the same time.

RECORD TELEVISION SALES

With sales of 7,317,034 TV sets in 1954, nearly a million higher than in 1953, U. S. stores set a new record. There is a good chance that the record may be broken this year, for present TV sales are at a high level.

CLOTHING STYLE NOTE

This Week Magazine reports that some stores in the nation are offering sport shirts in color combinations that match those of the new 1955 automobiles!

NEW SUBMACHINE GUN

The British army is using a new submachine gun which weighs only 6 pounds, fires about 575 shots a minute, and is highly accurate at distances up to 200 yards. The British say the weapon is the best of its type in the world today.

MOUNTAIN CLIMBERS' UNION

India has a new, unusual labor organization, the Sherpa Climbers' Association. The union will provide guides for explorers who want to tackle the high Himalaya mountains, and is working on a plan for retirement and disability pensions for its members.

NOTES BY THE BILLION

Every year, federal offices use some 25 billion pieces of paper for letters and memoranda (brief notes or records). All this paper work requires 750,000 employees and costs 4 billion dollars a year, says the Hoover Commission on Government Reorganization. The commission, headed by former President Hoover, thinks weeding out unnecessary memoranda would save 250 million dollars annually.

HELP FOR THE PIGEONS

Tokyo journalists often use carrier pigeons to speed a story to their newspapers; and, sometimes, the pigeons are attacked and killed by hawks which live on the Japanese Emperor's palace grounds. Palace officials, in answer to complaints, recently stated that the hawks would be destroyed.

REPAIRS FOR BIG BEN

London's Big Ben—the giant clock on the tower of Britain's Parliament—will be stopped for two months next years while repairs are made. The chimes of Big Ben sounding the hour sometimes are broadcast to the United States on special radio programs.



THREE LIONS

THIS COLORFUL street musician of Marrakech, French Morocco, draws a homemade bow over the strings of his ancient instrument to accompany his singing

Trouble Looms in Lands of French North Africa

Native Populations in Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia Want France to Grant Greater Degree of Self-Rule

FRENCH North Africa may become the world's next big trouble spot. Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia—France's three territories in this area—are seething with unrest. French troops have been rushed to the region to quell outbreaks of violence and terrorism.

U. S. officials are worried about the North African situation. We have several large bomber bases in Morocco. Strife in that country might make conditions so bad that these bases could no longer be used. Discord between the French and their North African territories might also seriously weaken France and reduce her effectiveness as one of our major allies. In fact, it was this issue that directly caused the downfall of the Mendes-France government.

The North African trouble is part of a pattern that has become familiar in recent years. In many parts of the world, colonial peoples have demanded freedom, and such countries as India, Burma, and Indonesia have won it.

Freedom is a goal which certain other colonial lands have not yet attained—among them, Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia.

These countries take up the northwestern corner of Africa (except for small areas under Spanish rule and the tiny international zone of Tangier). They stretch for almost 1,500 miles from the Atlantic Ocean to Libya on the Mediterranean Sea. In area, they are five times the size of France.

Towns and cities dot the coastline. Stretching inland is a fertile strip where wheat, oranges, grapes, olives, and other crops are grown. Back of this narrow strip are desolate, arid wastelands. Here are found barren ranges of mountains and the vast Sahara with its wind-blown sands.

In these three French-controlled territories—about one third the size of the United States—live close to 22 million people. More than 90 per cent of the population are Arabs and Berbers, native to the region. They follow the

(Continued on page 6)

Atoms and Their Peacetime Tasks

Nuclear Plants Will Soon Be Producing Electric Power on Commercial Basis

JULES Verne wrote his famous novel "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea" shortly after our Civil War. It told of a submarine, *Nautilus*, whose capabilities were far beyond those of any vessel then known to man.

Today a real *Nautilus* prowls the ocean depths. It is the U. S. Navy's first atomic submarine, even more miraculous than the fictional craft described by Verne. The beginning of this vessel's sea tests, less than two months ago, marked the first time that men had ever traveled by atomic power.

The new *Nautilus* is, of course, a military vessel—designed to work with deadly effectiveness against enemy ships in case of war. But it also is a reminder of those vast benefits which the harnessed atom can bring to mankind in a world at peace. The same general kind of engine which drives an atomic submarine on its errands of destruction can also be used to run passenger ships, and to produce electric power for homes and factories.

Until about two years ago, the United States government was unable to give much attention—comparatively speaking—to the peaceful uses of atomic energy. During most of the time since World War II, we have been in an armament race with the Soviet Union. Our leaders have felt it necessary to concentrate on the production of atomic weapons in order to make our destructive power so great that Moscow would not dare launch an all-out war against the United States or its allies.

All signs, including the latest series of tests in Nevada, point to the fact that Uncle Sam has taken tremendous strides in the field of atomic weapons. The U. S. Atomic Energy Commission has built a vast industrial empire, devoted mostly to the development of bombs, shells, and other military items.

This "empire" includes about 6 billion dollars' worth of factories, laboratories, and equipment—far more property than is held by such industrial giants as General Motors or the U. S. Steel Corporation. Last year, atomic projects used 4 per cent of all the electricity produced in America, and during 1955 they are expected to consume 9 per cent. By the end of last June, this nation had spent more than 10 billion dollars on its atomic energy program.

It is impossible to go into much detail concerning our atomic weapons, because a major part of the story is veiled in secrecy. In general, though, here is what seems to be the situation:

(Concluded on page 2)

Atoms and Their Peacetime Tasks

(Concluded from page 1)

We have progressed so well in the production of atomic bombs and other military items that the government thinks it can give increased attention to the atom's peacetime uses—without neglecting the weapons program. This is no sudden occurrence. It has been under way for two years or so.

There are urgent reasons why we need to push ahead rather rapidly on non-military atomic work. For one thing, according to informed observers, we must try to show the world that we are as interested in using the atom for positive human benefits as in using it for weapons of war.

Many countries are not nearly so rich in coal, petroleum, and other ordinary sources of energy as is the United States. Such nations look forward eagerly to the day when atomic power plants, similar to the one which drives the submarine *Nautilus*, can provide electricity for their towns and villages. We can greatly improve our position in world leadership by helping them hasten the coming of that day.

Ambitious Programs

Quite a few of these countries have already launched ambitious atomic programs of their own. Great Britain, for instance, plans to be obtaining more than a fourth of all her electricity from atomic power by 1975. Our friends and allies abroad are not just sitting around waiting for us to complete the harnessing of the atom. But many of them do need our assistance and, in numerous cases, we need theirs.

At present, the United States is starting to give friendly foreign countries considerable help in the construction and use of atomic reactors. These are the structures in which atomic "fuel," uranium or plutonium, is allowed to "burn" under carefully controlled conditions, yielding tremendous amounts of heat. Basically, the same process takes place in these reactors as in a uranium or plutonium bomb; but it occurs slowly—over a period of months or years—rather than in a sudden flash.

A reactor is useful in power production because of the heat which it gives off. This heat can be used for making steam, just as can the fire in a coal furnace. The steam turns generators to produce electricity. In the submarine *Nautilus*, this electric-

ity operates two great propellers. In land-based atomic plants, it could be sent out over power lines to homes and factories.

Atomic reactors in many cases perform jobs other than producing heat. Some of them are designed especially for treating various substances—including carbon, cobalt, gold, and iodine—with the rays that are always given off during an atomic reaction. Materials thus treated, as we shall see later, become tools of tremendous value to scientists and technicians in countless lines of work.

Plans are under way for the United States to help Canada and Belgium construct big new atomic reactors. We are especially interested in helping these countries, because we get a great deal of uranium from mines in Canada and the Belgian Congo.

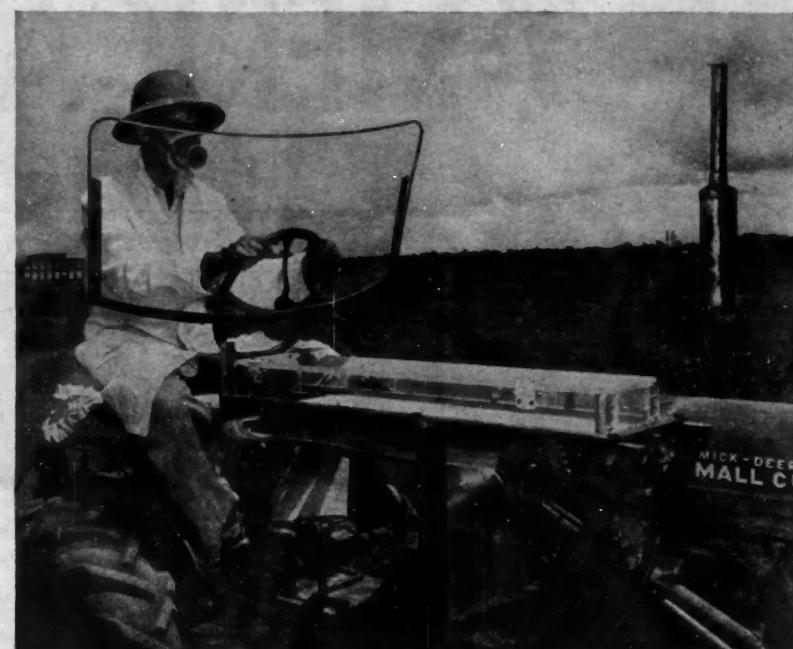
The U. S. government, moreover, is starting a "school" where foreign scientists and engineers can receive non-secret technical information about the reactors which our nation has built. Next week this school is to receive its first class, consisting of about 33 students from 19 different lands.

Meanwhile, representatives of numerous countries are still discussing President Eisenhower's proposal—made late in 1953—that the United Nations set up a special agency to promote world cooperation for the peaceful use of atomic energy. America has offered to give this agency, whenever it is established, 220 pounds of atomic "fuel."

Pro and Con

Many people are afraid that we shall, in our efforts to cooperate with friendly foreign nations on atomic matters, reveal important defense secrets which might then eventually get into communist hands. Officials in the Eisenhower administration, however, insist that adequate precautions are being taken against this danger. They say that American and foreign technicians can exchange a large amount of atomic "know-how" without touching upon secret military information.

While giving increased attention to the peacetime atomic projects of friends and allies abroad, the United States is also pushing ahead with more and more speed on similar projects here at home. There is close cooperation in this field between the



ATOMS for peace in agriculture. Wearing special clothing, rubber gloves, and a respirator, the driver of the tractor is spreading radioactive phosphorus mixed with other fertilizing material. In years to come, use of atomic materials to improve crops may become quite a common practice.

federal government and private industry.

At Shippingport, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh, a large atom-powered electric plant is already under construction. It is scheduled to start helping fill electric power requirements in the Pittsburgh area by 1957 or early 1958. The atomic reactor for this plant is being constructed mostly at government expense and will be publicly owned, but the Duquesne Light Company will operate the whole establishment.

Along the Hudson River, about 40 miles north of New York City, the Consolidated Edison Company expects to build an atomic-electric plant considerably larger than the one now going up in Pennsylvania. This is to be the first privately owned atomic power installation in America. Under provisions of a law which Congress adopted last year, and of a price schedule recently prepared by the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission, Consolidated Edison will obtain its supply of atomic "fuel" from the government.

The Motive

It will cost considerably more to produce electricity from atomic power than to obtain it from coal, petroleum, or other ordinary fuels. This situation is likely to continue for quite a number of years. The willingness of certain big utility companies to begin work immediately on atom-powered electric plants comes from their belief that the atom will eventually be one of our main sources of energy. They want to get an early start in handling it.

The atom's promise as a source of energy is made clear by the following comparisons: A chunk of pure atomic "fuel," about the size of a golf ball and weighing one pound, can produce more heat than does 2½ million pounds of coal. Geologists estimate that the earth contains enough uranium to furnish many times as much energy as can be obtained from all the existing deposits of coal, oil, and gas.

Many people are worried about the rapid rate at which these older types of fuel are being used up. There is still need, of course, to avoid wasting our petroleum and other familiar power sources. But it is encouraging

to know that atomic science is opening a vast new supply of energy with which man can operate his machines. Twenty years from now, it has been predicted, about half of all the new electric plants under construction in the United States will be designed for use of atomic power.

Even now—in a completely different field—the atom is bringing substantial benefits to mankind. *Radioactive isotopes*—substances that have been treated in atomic reactors so that they give off invisible rays—are already major tools of science, industry, and medicine.

Widespread Use

About 1,000 American industrial firms employ the ray-producing materials in various kinds of gauges and instruments. Hospitals and clinics use them in medical research and also in the actual treatment of cancer and various other illnesses. Agricultural experts believe they can develop plants that are resistant to certain types of disease, by exposing the seed to atomic rays.

The United States government, during the last eight years, has sent more than 3,000 shipments of radioisotopes to scientists and technicians in foreign nations.

So long as we remain in serious danger of war, the atom's destructive capabilities are bound to occupy a major share of our attention. But our atomic laboratories have already brought forth many important non-military benefits. If lasting peace is eventually secured, such benefits can be expanded and multiplied almost without limit.

Not everyone can do great things, but everyone can do small things in a great way.

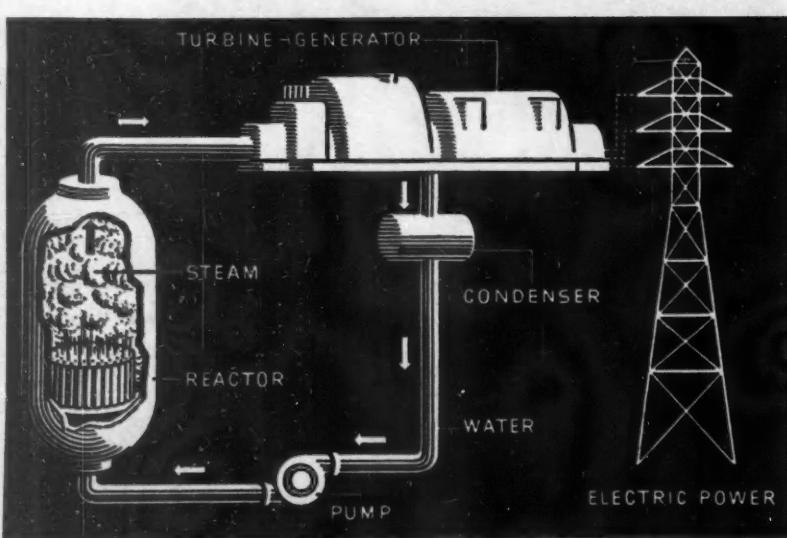
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HOW AN ATOMIC POWER PLANT works. Atomic materials provide heat to make steam, and steam drives the turbine-generator to produce electric power.

Readers Say—

I am 19 years old and in my last year of high school. It's hard for individuals in my position to decide what to do next. Should I continue my schooling on the assumption that I might not be drafted, or should I go into the service now? If the government hadn't discontinued the educational benefits of the GI Bill of Rights, I would join the armed forces without hesitation.

JAMES J. KILLIAN,
River Falls, Wisconsin

[Editor's Note: If readers of this paper will write and tell us what they think Jim and others in his position should do, we shall give a roundup of their views.]

I was very much interested in the Philadelphia curfew plan under which persons under 17 years of age are kept off the streets during certain hours of the night. I believe that such a plan will help keep youths out of trouble.

PAUL PERREAULT,
Biddeford, Maine

Curfew laws have been tried before without success. Persons bent on crime, it seems, always find a way to get around such restrictions.

TOM BURNS, JR.,
Chicago, Illinois

We think the Philadelphia curfew plan is a very good way to fight juvenile delinquency, but we oppose the relaxation of the ban on Friday and Saturday nights. Teenagers are more likely to go out on those nights than any others.

GARY MILLER and JAMES RASNAKE,
Honaker, Virginia

Hungry people in other lands may know better than to believe the false promises of the communists. But when these individuals are on the verge of starvation, the Red promise of bread may appear to them as the only hope for a way out of their trouble. We should help these unfortunate human beings overcome their problems so they won't become slaves of the Reds.

JOYCE NELSON,
Oakland, Nebraska

Some time ago, a friend and I stopped at an eating place near Washington, D. C. Three boys walked over to us and hit us without any apparent reason whatsoever. The penalty for such an assault in Washington, I found, is one year in prison or a fine. Other persons I know who were assaulted tell me that boys who hit them were let off with a \$25 fine. Is that adequate punishment?

MORTON MENDELSONH,
Washington, D. C.



SCENES FROM "PETER PAN," the famous play which NBC puts on TV tonight, March 7. At left are Mary Martin, as Peter Pan, and Cyril Ritchard as the wicked Captain Hook. At right, the actress poses with her daughter, Heller Halliday, who also has a role in the play.

Radio-TV-Movies

THIS evening—Monday, March 7—the Broadway musical production of "Peter Pan," with Mary Martin in the title role, will be telecast in a two-hour performance over NBC stations. The television version of the famous story by James Barrie will be almost identical with the stage play which has just concluded a run of 19 weeks in a New York theatre, and the cast will be the same. The TV performance will run from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. (EST).

Among the members of the cast will be Cyril Ritchard, who plays the part of the bloodthirsty Captain Hook, and Mary Martin's 12-year-old daughter, Heller Halliday, in the role of Liza. (In private life, Mary Martin is Mrs. Richard Halliday).

This marks the first time that a successful New York play has been presented on television immediately after it finished its stage run. The program will be an outstanding one.

"Washington Week," a new Sunday news program from the nation's capital, may now be heard on CBS radio. Paul Niven, as anchor man,

presents the network's top correspondents who give informative reports on the major news stories of the week in Washington.

The program is based on the correspondents' interviews in the coverage of their "beats" at the White House, Capitol Hill, the Pentagon, the State Department, and other top news centers. "Washington Week" details the facts and analyzes the effects of capital news developments of the preceding week.

Among the correspondents contributing reports are Eric Sevareid, Grifing Bancroft, Bill Costello, George Herman, and Bill Shadel. This Sunday program is heard from 12:45 to 1:00 p.m. (EST).

A book familiar to several generations of young people—"Hans Brinker, or the Silver Skates"—will be made into a motion picture next fall by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Outdoor scenes will be filmed in the Netherlands. Though it was first published 90 years ago, Mary Mapes Dodge's story of a Dutch boy has retained its popularity over the years.

Your Vocabulary

In each sentence below, match the italicized word with the following word or phrase whose meaning is most nearly the same. Correct answers are to be found on page 5, column 4.

1. The jury felt that there was *tangible* (tän'jē-bl) evidence. (a) flimsy (b) doubtful (c) substantial (d) hidden.

2. What will be the *paramount* (pair'uuh-mount) issue of the 1956 Presidential campaign? (a) most criticized (b) most important (c) most concealed (d) most exaggerated.

3. No place else could such a *charlatan* (shar'la-tan) have risen to power. (a) tyrant (b) young man (c) ignorant person (d) impostor.

4. The speaker made *flamboyant* (fläm-boy'ānt) claims for his idea. (a) few (b) varied (c) extravagant (d) many.

5. The government *stipulated* (stip'-yü-lät-ëd) the terms of the contract. (a) arranged definitely (b) understood (c) was ignorant of (d) changed.

6. The FBI *evaluates* (ē-väl'yoo-ātēs) each clue. (a) discards entirely (b) closely follows (c) considers the value of (d) finds.

7. Even the *timorous* (tim'or-üs) members of the political group agreed to the plan. (a) opposition (b) radical (c) fearful (d) hot-tempered.

CURRENT AFFAIRS PUZZLE

Fill in numbered vertical rows according to descriptions given below. When all are correctly finished, heavy rectangle will spell the name of a large geographical area.

1. French protectorate that is demanding independence.

2. The chief religion of North African natives.

3. _____ in North Africa is considered a part of the French nation.

4. _____, one of our European allies, has big plans for peacetime use of atomic energy.

5. Dry, sandy wasteland that makes up large part of French holdings in North Africa.

6. Title of Morocco's native ruler.

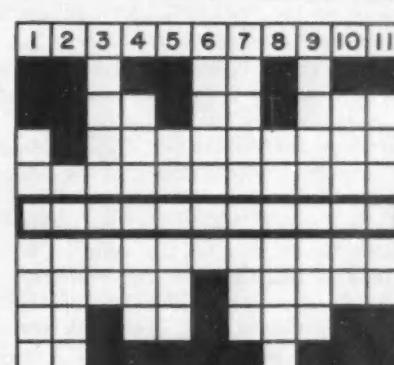
7. Capital of Connecticut.

8. The U. S. has air bases in French _____.

9. Name of our first atomic submarine.

10. Doctors use atomic materials in treating _____.

11. State where atomic tests are carried out. _____.



Last Week

HORIZONTAL: Mao Tse-tung. VERTICAL:
1. Des Moines; 2. army; 3. Barton; 4. steel; 5. cars; 6. Peiping; 7. Yangtze; 8. Chou En-lai; 9. San; 10. Shanghai.



Walter E. Myer and was a good boxer. He seemed to be the type of person who was afraid of nothing. Imagine my surprise, then, when Howard told me rather sheepishly one day that he was scared of the dark. The coming of night, he said, always raised an unreasoning feeling of panic in him. He admitted that there was no sound basis for his state of mind, but there was nothing he could do about it.

Nearly everyone has fears of one kind or another. Many young people are afraid that they are unattractive in appearance, or that they will not be popular. Some dread attending social gatherings because they are afraid of talking with people they haven't met before. Others never speak up in a group for fear that they will be considered "dumb."

By Walter E. Myer

Most people get over these fears, but with some they become deeply ingrained. When carried too far, they become obsessions and can do great harm. A sensitive person who permits personal fears to get control of him finds daily living a painful experience.

There is seldom any good reason for personal fears of this nature, yet it does not help a victim merely to tell him that. What he needs is some concrete advice on combating his fears. If you are troubled in this way, here are some steps you may take to eliminate your difficulties.

(1) Emerson once said that if you do the thing you fear, the death of fear is certain. Therefore, face up to your fears and determine to do something about them. If you are shy about meeting new acquaintances, deliberately try to do so. Join a school club. Take part in young people's activities at your church and elsewhere.

Tackling what you fear is like

plunging into a pool—the water is not likely to be nearly so cold as you thought it would be. In the same way, you will find that your fears, once they are tackled, were largely unfounded.

(2) Don't bottle your fears up within you. Talk them over with your parents, teachers, and close friends among your classmates. Once you admit frankly to others—and to yourself—that you have fears, you have taken the first step toward eliminating them. You will find that most older people will be sympathetic, for they have very likely had many of the same fears when younger and have learned to cope with them.

(3) Be active in family, school, and community programs, and you will not have time to brood over your fears. Once you stop dwelling on them, you will find that they will gradually disappear. Remember what the late President Franklin Roosevelt once said: "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

The Story of the Week

People in the News

Secretary of State Dulles is scheduled to visit Canada next week. He plans to spend three days at Ottawa, Canada's capital, to talk about ways of increasing trade between our country and Canada and other issues.

Robert Menzies, prime minister of Australia, is due to arrive in Washington, D. C., next Sunday, March 13. His plans include a White House visit during his three-day stay in the nation's capital.

Cecil B. De Mille, movie producer and director, is designing the uniforms for the nation's new Air Force Academy near Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Senator Wayne Morse of Oregon is making his plans to run as a Democrat when he comes up for re-election in 1956. Morse, who once was a Republican, left that party to become an Independent a few years ago.

French Political Puzzle

Throughout much of February, France sought in vain for someone to head its government. Earlier in the month, the French National Assembly (the powerful lower house of parliament) turned the land's 20th premier since World War II—Pierre Mendes-France—out of office.

In France, the premier is forced to resign when a majority of the Assembly members vote against him on an important issue he favors. This happens often because the nation's legislators are divided into many political parties which disagree sharply on a number of issues. Several of them must support a premier in order for him to stay in power.

More and more French leaders feel that certain changes must be made if their country is to have a stable government. Among other reforms, they support a proposal now being considered by the Assembly that would change the way in which lawmakers are elected.

At the present time, voters cast ballots on a state-wide basis for a slate of candidates put up by each party or group of parties. Under the proposed change, French citizens of each election district would vote for individual candidates, just as we in this country vote for members of the U. S. House of Representatives.

Supporters of the plan hope it can be adopted before the next nation-wide Assembly elections, scheduled for not later than 1956. They say: "The change would make the Assembly more responsible to the voters. It would be less likely to oust premiers who favor policies which have widespread public support, but which are opposed by party leaders."

While this question was being debated last week, a new French premier, Edgar Faure, was attempting to gain support for his policies. Like Mendes-France, he strongly favors the rearming of West Germany in cooperation with NATO. Will he be



Edgar Faure



QUEMOY is the name of both the Chinese island and its leading city, which are now in Nationalist hands. A Nationalist soldier stands in foreground of the above photo of the town. The big question is: Will U. S. forces step in to help the Nationalists if Chinese communist forces invade the island?

able to stay in power long enough to see this goal realized?

Youth Organizations

What does the name "4-H" stand for? It represents the pledge made by 4-H Club members for the development of Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. The nation's 4-H Clubs are now holding special observances in honor of 4-H Club Week. Members in communities across the country are exhibiting their projects or taking part in various other 4-H Club activities. Projects include homemaking, growing crops, raising livestock, and many other similar activities.

This organization is made up largely of farm boys and girls between 10 and 20 years of age. Their motto is "To make the best better," and their badge is a green four-leaf clover with a white "H" on each leaf.

How long have the Girl Scouts been active in the U. S.? The movement is now celebrating its 43rd year of Scouting activities for girls in our country. It was on March 12, 1912, that the first troop was organized by Mrs. Juliette Lowe in Savannah, Georgia. There are now over 2 1/4 million Girl Scouts and adult leaders in the nation. Girl Scout Week, celebrated March 6 through 12, is being observed by special Scouting activities in communities across the nation.

Debate Over Taxes

Whatever finally happens to the hotly debated Democratic tax proposal, it is certain to be a big issue in next year's election campaigns. Democrats want to slash income taxes by \$20 for every taxpayer and for every one of his dependents. Hence, a family of four might have its tax bill cut by as much as \$80 under the plan. If the tax proposal is approved, it will go into effect at the start of next year.

Americans who oppose the Democratic tax plan argue: "President Eisenhower was right when he said the proposal is irresponsible and made for political gains. The Democrats are suggesting the tax cut now to win

votes for themselves in next year's Presidential election. They seek to embarrass the Republican administration by trying to convince the voters that the GOP opposes tax cuts for the people as a whole.

"The administration is doing everything possible to reduce government expenses by eliminating the wasteful and extravagant activities carried on by past Democratic administrations. But defense spending, needed for our country's security, has thus far made it impossible to balance government spending with revenues. The Democratic tax plan, which would reduce Uncle Sam's income by nearly 2 1/3 billion dollars, would push us still further into debt. Hence, it would hurt all Americans, regardless of income, because it would weaken our government financially."

Supporters of the tax plan contend: "When proposals are made to cut taxes which would help low-income groups, the Republicans shout 'politics' and



WE'LL BE HEARING a lot about these two skaters, Hayes Alan Jenkins of Colorado Springs, and Tenley Albright of Newton, Massachusetts. They recently won, respectively, the men's and women's World Figure Skating Championships in Vienna, Austria.

brand the move as 'irresponsible.' Yet, they apparently didn't think it was irresponsible for them to slash taxes on business groups and on certain earnings of the well-to-do last year. At that time, too, our government was spending more money than it collected in revenues.

"Besides, Republicans are angry because the Democrats beat them to the punch with a tax-cut proposal. The GOP was planning to support this same kind of measure in 1956—an election year—so as to win favor among voters. Unfortunately for them, the Democrats beat them to the punch."

Moscow Woos Japan

Moscow is trying to convince Japan that the Soviets and the Japanese can be friends. Not long ago, Russia agreed to talk with Japan on how the two countries can improve relations with each other. Moscow even went along with the Japanese demand that the talks take place at the United Nations headquarters in New York City.

Japan chose the UN as a meeting place to emphasize to the Russians that she wants to become a member of the global organization. Thus far, Moscow's veto has kept Japan out of the UN whenever that issue came up for a vote.

In the talks, scheduled to get underway early this month, Japan is expected to ask Russia to agree on (1) Japanese admission to the UN; (2) the return of thousands of Japanese war captives held by the Soviets since World War II; (3) new trade deals between Japan and Russia; (4) an end to the state of war which has existed between the two countries since World War II; and (5) the return to Japan of some nearby islands taken by the Soviets at the end of that conflict.

It remains to be seen whether or not Moscow will agree to the various Japanese requests. As of last week, the Soviets said only that they are willing to end the state of war with Japan.

Meanwhile, Uncle Sam will keep a



UNITED PRESS



THE MODERN STATLER HOTEL in Washington, D. C., helps to house the hundreds of thousands of people who visit our national capital each year. American and foreign celebrities are frequently included among its guests. The Statler was host to over 60 conventions last year, and its Presidential ballroom is often used for functions attended by the nation's Chief Executive. The President may put in an appearance here from a dozen to twenty times a year.

close watch on the Japanese-Soviet talks. We hope Japan won't weaken her ties with us and our allies in return for empty promises from Moscow.

Capital Sightseeing

Hundreds of thousands of Americans visit the nation's capital each year. According to Earle Palmer Brown, Washington public relations counsel, 345 conventions were held in the capital city in 1954. Approximately 260,000 people from all parts of the country participated in them. A few of the organizations involved were these:

American Bankers Association, National Association of Retail Grocers, National Association of Insurance Agents, The American Legion, National Conference on Citizenship, American Society of Newspaper Editors, Institute of Scrap Iron and Steel, and the U. S. Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Brown says that an estimated 4½ million additional visitors, including 600,000 members of student groups, came to Washington, D. C., last year.

While here, students and other tourists are treated to a wealth of historic and political attractions. They see the stately and impressive Capitol Building, and watch members of Congress discussing new laws. At the Bureau of Engraving, they see how the nation's paper money is made. Among the other favorite stops are the White House, the FBI, and the monuments to outstanding American leaders.

Of great interest to all visitors is the imposing Lincoln Memorial, situated within several hundred feet of the Potomac River and overlooking a long, picturesque Reflecting Pool. The 555-foot-high Washington Monument, peering over the entire city and surrounding areas; the stately Jefferson Memorial beside the Tidal Basin; the Ford Theater, where Lincoln was assassinated; and Mount Vernon, Virginia home of George Washington, are other favorite tourist attractions.

The Japanese cherry trees, which surround the beautiful Tidal Basin

alongside the Potomac, attract many thousands of visitors in the spring. A special festival is always held when the pink and white blossoms are in full bloom. This year, the festival will begin March 29 and run until April 3.

Tourists driving up 16th Street and Massachusetts Avenue, in the nation's capital, see the numerous embassies of foreign nations. Many of these admit visitors if arrangements are made ahead of time.

West German Rearmament

Last week, France appeared to be the last serious obstacle in the way of rearming West Germany and bringing her into the European alliance against communist aggression. By a large vote, the West German lawmakers recently agreed to rearm their country and to cooperate along military lines with members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The German legislators also approved of settling their differences with France over the disputed Saar territory, although there was bitter and large-scale opposition to this action.

The lower house of Parliament in

France has taken favorable action on the question of German rearmament, but the upper house has not voted as we go to press. If French approval occurs, the allied occupation of West Germany will come to an end, but NATO troops will have the right to be stationed on German soil.

Thus, encouraging progress is being made toward making West Germany a military partner of the NATO nations. The road ahead will not be smooth, however, and it will take statesmanship of a high order to bring the French and Germans—long-time rivals and enemies—into a smooth working relationship.

Next Week's Articles

Unless unforeseen developments arise, next week's major articles will deal with (1) Spain, and (2) federal aid to education.

Rome's first subway has been open for several weeks now. Passengers ride in streamlined 10-car electric trains. The 40 million dollar subway was begun 13 years ago, but World War II caused a delay in finishing it.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Caller: Are you sure the manager is not in?

Office boy: Do you doubt his word, sir?



Farmer Brown: Why's our new neighbor from the city jumping up and down in his potato patch?

Farmer Jones: He thinks he's going to raise mashed potatoes.

Teacher: If you had six popsicles, Johnny, and Tom asked you for three, how many would you have left?

Johnny: Six.

Fran: Did you see the eclipse last night?

Stan: No, what channel was it on?

"I shall now illustrate what I have in mind," said the professor as he erased the blackboard.

Mr. Newlywed: Darling, did you sew the button on my coat?

Mrs. Newlywed: No, dear, I couldn't find the button so I just sewed up the buttonhole.

Study Guide

Atomic Energy

1. Give some figures or comparisons that help show the size of the industrial "empire" now controlled by the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission.

2. Why is it important, from the standpoint of our relations with other countries, that the United States take an active interest in peacetime atomic energy development?

3. What is an atomic reactor? How is it used in production of electric power?

4. List some ways in which the United States is helping foreign nations harness the atom.

5. Tell about some of the major steps now being taken, in this country, toward commercial production of electricity from atomic power.

6. What are radioactive isotopes?

7. List some of the ways in which these substances are used.

8. Identify the *Nautilus*.

Discussion

To what extent do you think the United States should cooperate with other nations in peacetime atomic energy development? Explain your position.

North Africa

1. In what respect is the North African trouble part of a pattern that has become familiar in recent years?

2. Give a rough breakdown of the various peoples who live in North Africa.

3. Why has the North African unrest become worse during the past year?

4. Summarize the views of those who feel that France should retain control over its North African territories.

5. How do the North African nationalists support their position favoring self-rule?

6. Why is it a difficult matter for the U. S. to decide which side to back in this conflict?

7. How do the communists expect to profit by whatever decision we reach?

Discussion

1. Do you or do you not think France should keep control over its North African territories? Explain.

2. Do you think we should continue to follow a middle path in the North African conflict, or should we wholeheartedly support one side? Give reasons for your answer.

Miscellaneous

1. How many premiers has France had since World War II? What is a chief reason for these frequent changes in French leadership?

2. Tell something about two youth organizations holding special observances this week.

3. What are the arguments for and against the new Democratic tax proposal? How do you feel about this issue?

4. What issues are likely to be discussed in talks scheduled for early this month between Japan and Russia?

5. Name some of the tourist attractions in Washington, D. C.

6. What action did West German legislators take recently with regard to rearmament of their country?

Pronunciations

Algeria—äl-jér'uh

Faure—for

Marrakech—mär-räk'esh

Morocco—mó-rók'ó

Pierre Mendes-France—pyér mén'dés-frāns'

Quemoy—kē-moy'

Tangier—tān-jér'

Tunisia—tū-nish'uh

Answers to Your Vocabulary

1. (c) substantial; 2. (b) most important; 3. (d) impostor; 4. (c) extravagant; 5. (a) arranged definitely; 6. (c) considers the value of; 7. (c) fearful.

North Africa

(Continued from page 1)

Moslem religion, speak Arabic languages, and traditionally dress themselves in flowing robes.

About 1,800,000 people of European descent make their homes in French North Africa. Many came from France or are the descendants of earlier French settlers. A considerable number came from the French island of Corsica. There are also large numbers of Spanish in Morocco and many Italians in Tunisia. These European settlers hold high government posts and control most of the region's industry and trade. They enjoy much higher living standards than the Arabs and Berbers.

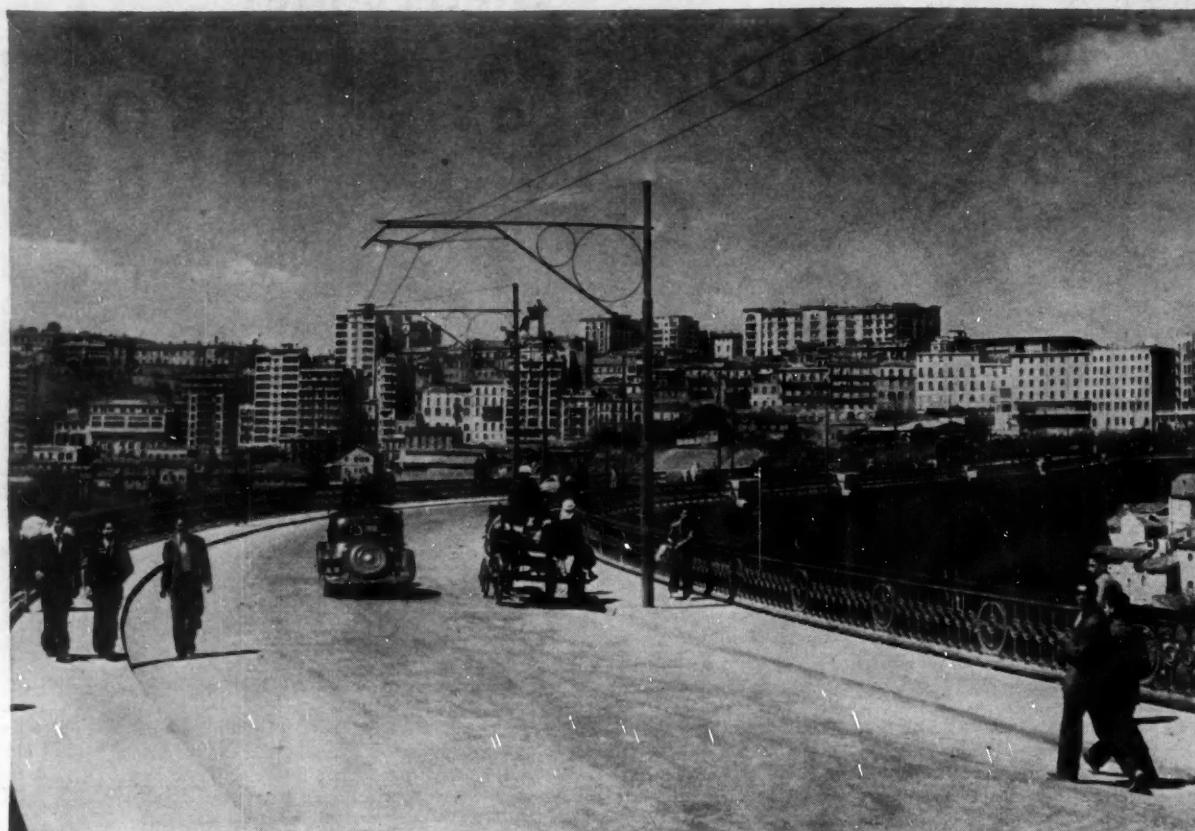
The native population falls into three groups. At the top is a small wealthy class, many of whom have titles of nobility. Among them are the Sultan of Morocco and the Bey of Tunis who, in name, are the top officials of their countries. Actually their actions are controlled by the French.

A small middle class exists, consisting of professional men and lesser government employees. Many have been educated in France. Some of the city merchants are among this group.

At the bottom of the ladder are the poverty-stricken city laborers, farm workers, and herdsmen. They make up 75 per cent of the population. They live in tin-roofed shacks in the cities, and in mud huts or flimsy tents in the country. Uneducated and disease-ridden, they barely eke out a living. Population is steadily increasing among the native peoples, and the towns, cities, and cropland are becoming more crowded every year.

There has been unrest in North Africa for a long time, but it has become steadily worse of late. When the war in Indochina ended, the North African native leaders said they found out that the French planned to move many of their troops from Indochina to North Africa. The North African nationalists claimed that this knowledge prompted them to step up their activity in the hopes of winning more self-rule before troops arrived.

At the same time, there has been stepped-up propaganda from Egypt.



CONSTANTINE is an important trading center in Algeria. A modern section of the city is shown above, but there are old sections that date back for hundreds of years. Constantine is known for hand-made leather and textile goods.

That nation and other members of the Arab League are on the side of their Moslem kinsmen in the current dispute with France.

The French complain that Radio Cairo in Egypt is beaming a steady flow of propaganda into French North Africa in support of native independence. One of the facts which is continually pounded home to the native North Africans is that their lands are the only predominantly Arab-speaking areas in the world which are not independent.

Though the picture differs slightly from region to region, the basic conflict is identical in all three territories. On one side are the French overlords and the European settlers. They want to have France continue to run the North African lands.

On the other side are the natives of the region, who want either more or complete self-rule. In each country, some native leaders feel that a gradual approach is the best course to fol-

low, but there are also many extremists who want full independence without delay. The latter group is behind much of the violence of recent years, and seems to be getting the upper hand over those who favor moderation.

Not all the French see eye to eye, either. While many oppose giving the North Africans any more self-rule, others feel that a greater degree of freedom for the natives is necessary. Among those holding the latter view is Pierre Mendes-France, who was the French Premier until a short time ago.

Serious Rioting

When serious rioting took place in Tunisia last summer, Mendes-France made a dramatic trip to the North African protectorate. He promised the Tunisians that they would be given a greater degree of independence. However, many deputies in the French parliament opposed this idea. These deputies helped force Mendes-France out of office last month before the promised reforms in Tunisia could be carried out. (See French note, page 4.)

The European settlers in North Africa and their supporters in France feel that the French government should continue to control Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia as it has done for many years. The views they put forth may be summarized as follows:

"France has done an outstanding job of developing and ruling North Africa. The native North Africans are better off today than they ever were before. For their improved living standards they can thank the French."

"For example, before the French arrived in Algeria, there was one hospital in the country. Today there are 460. Such diseases as malaria and typhus have just about been eliminated. A major campaign is now being waged against tuberculosis."

"Gains in education have been equally striking. For example, in 1913—one year after the French took over Morocco—less than 900 natives in the whole country were attending school. Now there are more than 170,-

000. Since Tunisia became a French protectorate, the number of students in schools has increased from 1,000 to 200,000.

"Farm and industrial progress under French rule has benefitted the natives as much as it has the European settlers. In both Morocco and Tunisia, well over 90 per cent of the farm land is in the hands of native farmers. Thousands of Arabs and Berbers are employed on farms and in industries started by the French—for example, mining, olive oil production, and canning of fruits and vegetables."

"Meanwhile, steady progress has been made toward giving natives more self rule. Algeria is now governed as a part of France with representatives in the French parliament. Negotiations are going on with Tunisia for more home rule. As these lands become further developed and the natives show more political maturity, further steps in this direction will be made."

"Certainly France cannot—and should not—withdraw from the area. The natives are not yet capable of ruling; under native rule, the area would go rapidly downhill. The communists would be likely to take over the entire region, and the European settlers who have been there for years developing the area would probably have their holdings taken from them."

"Moreover, the loss of this territory would make France a third-rate power. It is plainly in the interests of the free world for France to retain its control of North Africa."

The nationalists in North Africa, who want immediate steps taken toward self-rule, say:

"We are entitled to have a specific timetable set up by which we can achieve self-rule. We are asking no more than other colonial peoples, many of whom have won their freedom in recent years."

"Yet the French continually stall and drag their feet whenever these proposals are made. Little has been done in Tunisia to translate Mendes-France's promises of last summer into deeds. When the Sultan of Morocco supported the drive toward self-gov-



SCREEN TRAVELER FROM GENDREAU

TAILORS of Algiers, capital city of Algeria, do their sewing out-of-doors

ernment, he was promptly removed from office by the French who then installed a puppet ruler in his place. Only a few months ago when Algerian nationalists asked a French cabinet officer to hear their proposals, they were told: 'The only negotiation which is open is war.'

"Throughout North Africa, the French have continually discriminated against the native peoples. European settlers control almost all the good cropland. In Algeria, the French represent no more than 12 per cent of the population, but they control 40 per cent of the land. Only two per cent of government civil-service workers are Moslems. Only one out of six Arab children goes to school, while all the French settlers' children receive an education.

Few Concessions

"The few concessions that the French have made are far more trifling than they would have people believe. They claim that Algeria is a part of France and is represented in the French parliament. The fact is that, in France, each deputy represents about 66,000 people on the average, while each of Algeria's deputies has to represent almost 700,000 people. In other words, Algeria has only about one tenth of the representation it deserves.

"The French claim that the people of North Africa could not govern themselves and would permit their lands to fall into communist hands if the French withdrew. The plain truth is that the Reds have never been able to take over a Moslem land.

"On the other hand, the French showed in Indochina just how ineffective they are at protecting subject peoples from communist aggression. Certainly a native government could do a better job of protecting North Africa from communism than the French. This argument is another 'slick trick' by which France hopes to keep on governing North Africa as a colony."

The disturbed situation in Morocco,

Algeria, and Tunisia puts the United States on a difficult spot. It raises this question: Which side should the U. S. government support?

France is an important ally of ours in the defense system we have helped set up in Europe. Yet if we support the French 100 per cent, we shall be condemned by millions of Asians and Africans for supporting colonialism. Our chances of ever winning such lands as India, Burma, and Indonesia to our side in the world struggle might just about vanish. Moreover, the resentment of the North Africans might make it impossible for us to maintain airfields in their region.

Yet, if we give the native peoples our wholehearted support, we may embitter the French and cause them to leave the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Our many defense installations in France would have to be moved elsewhere, and the whole anti-communist defense alliance in Europe might crumble.

In either case, the communists will try to make capital of what we do. If we support France, they will intensify their propaganda among the North Africans. Today most of the disturbances in these lands are caused by nationalism rather than communism, but the Reds—already active in Algeria—are quick to seize upon any troubles to advance their cause.

If we support the North African natives, the French communists will be sure to take advantage of the bad feeling created in that land against the United States. They will renew their efforts to take France out of the western alliance and link her more closely to the Soviet Union.

Thus far, we have tried to follow a middle path. We are trying to be loyal to our French allies. At the same time, we are not slamming the door on the North African natives in their bid for self-rule. With tension rising in North Africa, though, we may be forced to take a more positive stand on one side or the other. Our leaders now have the troublesome situation under close study.



UNITED PRESS

DO you think you could balance this 16-pound shot as well as Parry O'Brien? He can also throw it, and holds the world's outdoor shot-put record—60 feet 10 inches—and the indoor record—59 feet 5½ inches.

SPORTS

THIS week the Pan-American Games will get under way in Mexico City. At least 19 nations of this hemisphere—including the United States—will send teams to take part in the "Olympics of the Americas." Over 2,000 athletes will participate in the competition, which runs from March 12 to 26.

Among the 18 sports in which there will be contests are basketball, tennis, rowing, horsemanship, and track and field events. Just as in the Olympic Games, major interest will probably focus on track and field competition. The United States is sending a women's track and field team of 16, and a men's team of 33 runners, jumpers, and weight throwers.

Among the outstanding members of the men's team will be Parry O'Brien, the world's best shot-putter; Mal Whitfield, the half-mile king; Bob Richards, the high-flying pole vaulter; Fortune Gordien, one of the world's best discus throwers; and Horace Ashenfelter, long-distance runner. All of these except Gordien were Olympic champions in 1952.

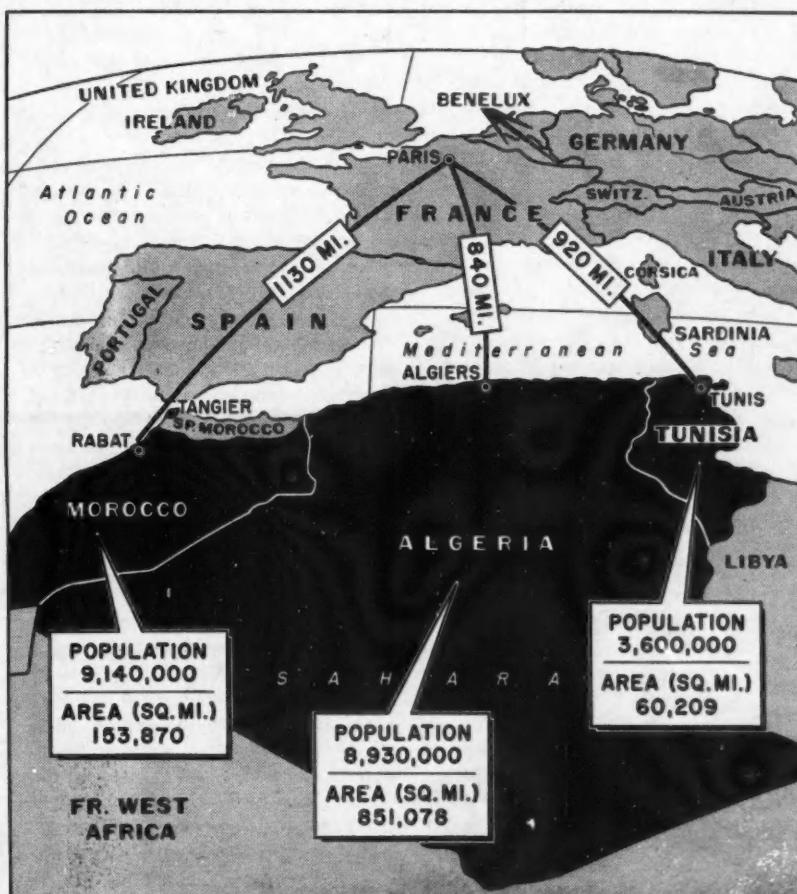
The prospects are that the U. S. team will make an excellent showing. Jim Kelly, chairman of the committee which selected the track and field team, thinks that the 33-man group could have won any Olympic Games ever held.

This is the second time that the Pan-American Games have taken place. The first competition was in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1951.

★

Next Saturday—March 12—the famous Harlem Globetrotters will be seen for the first time on television in a full-length basketball game. They will play a Washington, D. C., team in the gymnasium of the Great Lakes Naval Training Station near Chicago.

The Globetrotters are as famous for their clowning and showmanship as they are for their basketball ability. The Negro five has played before big crowds in lands all over the world. The team has been called one of Uncle Sam's most effective ambassadors of good will abroad. Next Saturday's game will be telecast by CBS stations, starting at 3 p.m. (EST).



FRENCH NORTH AFRICA is made up of French Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia

Monthly Test

NOTE TO TEACHERS: This test covers issues of the AMERICAN OBSERVER dated February 7, 14, 21, and 28. The answer key appears in the March 7 issue of *The Civic Leader*. Scoring: If grades are to be calculated on a percentage basis, we suggest that a deduction of 3 points be made for each wrong or omitted answer.

DIRECTIONS TO STUDENTS: In each of the following items, select the correct answer and write its letter on your answer sheet.

1. Russia's new leaders seem to be in favor of (a) producing more civilian goods and less military equipment; (b) cooperating with the free nations of the world; (c) producing more heavy military and industrial equipment and less civilian goods; (d) giving the Russian people a greater voice in running their government.

2. Many well-informed observers feel that Red China will not risk war with the U. S. now because (a) she cannot find enough manpower for a large army; (b) she lacks industrial skill and resources; (c) Russia has plainly stated she will not assist China; (d) revolution inside China has weakened the government.

3. A major shortcoming of the Manila Pact is that these two nations failed to sign it: (a) Britain and the United States; (b) France and Thailand; (c) Pakistan and the Philippines; (d) India and Indonesia.

4. Italy's unemployment is caused mainly by (a) the refusal of workers to accept low wages; (b) large population and limited resources; (c) failure of Italy's agricultural crops last year; (d) the failure of Italy to use her many good resources.

5. An important development for unionized workers in the United States is (a) the proposed merger of the AFL and the CIO; (b) a rapidly falling membership in labor unions; (c) a proposed law to abolish labor unions; (d) the appointment of Walter Reuther as U. S. Secretary of Labor.

6. Since the communists gained control of China in 1949, (a) poverty has been wiped out among the Chinese people; (b) the people have gained a slightly larger voice in choosing their leaders; (c) the nation has been placed under a strong dictatorship; (d) China's power has increased to the point where she now rules the mainland of Asia except for India.

7. U. S. leaders feel that the best way to help Central America is to (a) prevent further revolutions with our armed forces; (b) take over the governing of the area for the next few years; (c) assist in programs to raise living standards and promote education; (d) provide Central American governments with arms and ammunition.

8. A major aim of organized labor in the United States is to (a) obtain "guaranteed annual wage" contracts; (b) do away with "union shop" agreements; (c) do away with the practice of collective bargaining; (d) obtain a "minimum wage" rate of 65 cents per hour.

9. The shift in Russian leadership is expected to mean that (a) a civil war is about to start inside Russia; (b) Russia is losing the support of her satellite countries; (c) Russia disapproves of Red China's attacks against Chiang Kai-shek; (d) there will be increased tension between Russia and the West.

10. A vital need in the battle against juvenile crime is (a) more police officers assigned to patrol duty in schools; (b) long prison terms for all juvenile criminals; (c) more people to take the problem seriously and cooperate in combatting it; (d) less parental supervision of juvenile activities.

11. General Clay has recommended a 10-year, 100 billion dollar program for the construction of (a) schools; (b) a radar warning system; (c) new war plants in the interior of the country; (d) highways.

12. The most powerful man in Russia today is thought to be (a) Nikita Khrushchev; (b) Georgi Malenkov; (c) Joseph Stalin; (d) Andrei Vishinsky.

(Concluded on page 8)

Monthly Test

(Concluded from page 7)

13. One of SEATO's aims is to (a) help Mao Tse-tung raise living standards in his country; (b) keep Southeast Asia out of communist hands; (c) remove U. S. and British forces from Asian lands; (d) undermine Nehru's leadership in India.

14. Organized labor accounts for (a) about one fourth of the U. S. labor force; (b) almost one half; (c) nearly two thirds; (d) more than three fourths.

15. Italy's premier feels that the best way to curb communism in his country is to (a) jail all office-holders who are communists; (b) remove the causes of misery and discontent among the people; (c) outlaw the communist party; (d) send all Italian communists to Russia.

After the corresponding number on your answer sheet for each of the following items, write the word, name, or phrase that best completes the question.

16. Southeast Asia is the world's main source of natural _____.

17. Name the high government official who made a good-will tour of Central America last month. _____.

18. What do the letters OAS stand for? _____.

19. The _____ Commission has given Congress a number of proposals to reduce government costs and increase operating efficiency.

20. _____ is the chief occupation of the Chinese people.

21. The president of the United Mine Workers is _____.

22. About half of the free world's supply of uranium comes from the _____, an African colony.

Identify the following persons. Choose the correct description from the list below. Write the letter which precedes that description opposite the number of the person to whom it applies.

23. Ramon Magsaysay

24. Nikita Khrushchev

25. George Meany

26. Mario Scelba

27. James Mitchell

28. Nikolai Bulganin

A. Premier of France

B. Premier of Russia

C. President of the Philippines

D. U. S. Secretary of Labor

E. Head of Russia's Communist Party

F. AFL President

G. Premier of Italy

After the corresponding number on your answer sheet for each of the following items, write the letter of the word or phrase that makes the best definition of the word in italics.

29. He issued an *unequivocal* statement. (a) disagreeable; (b) risky; (c) doubtful; (d) clear.

30. They had a *tacit* agreement. (a) formal; (b) troublesome; (c) periodic; (d) unspoken.

31. The prisoners were *exonerated*. (a) punished; (b) freed from blame; (c) exiled; (d) executed.

32. Her attitude was a *perennial* source of trouble. (a) well-known; (b) vicious; (c) never-ending; (d) silly.

33. The committee's statement was *cryptic*. (a) vague and puzzling; (b) clear and concise; (c) humorous; (d) sardonic.

A Career for Tomorrow -- In Police Work

MANY communities throughout the nation need additional law enforcement personnel. Hence, there are good opportunities in this field.

Requirements for officers vary, but in general, young men must be from 5 feet 8 inches to 6 feet 4 inches tall; and they must have physical endurance, good judgment, and steady nerves. They should also like to work with people, for a policeman deals with many different types of individuals in the course of a day's work. The right combination of courtesy and firmness is a vital asset. Study beyond high school is not essential for male officers in most cases.

Women must have all the requirements, except height, listed for men. In addition, experience or special training in handling delinquency problems is often required of prospective policewomen.

Your training will begin as soon as you are employed for police work. Both men and women are taught something about criminal law and local ordinances; the regulations of the police department; how to use firearms; the principles of first aid; and what to do at the scene of an accident or crime to help the victim and preserve the evidence until the investigative authorities arrive. In addition, policewomen are given instruction in dealing with the particular problems they are to handle.

Your duties will vary. Female officers deal chiefly with women, girls and very young boys. Their duties, briefly summarized, are: to make arrests, where necessary; to prevent de-

linquency among women and girls; and to handle problems, such as desertion, neglect, and cruelty, that arise in connection with families and children.

Male officers have more general duties and they usually work with a specific division within the department. If they are assigned to patrol



GALLOWAY
POLICEMEN enforce the law

work, for instance, they go over their beat on foot or in a car to check into law violations and any other trouble that might arise. In addition, they assist people who need help in any way.

Policemen also serve in the *detective bureau* of the department. This bureau includes squads of specialized personnel such as the *homicide squad*, which investigates murders; the *auto squad*, which checks into automobile thefts; and the *narcotics squad*, which

looks into violations of laws governing the sale and use of certain drugs.

Your salary will depend upon the locality in which you work, the type of duties you have, and the length of time you have spent on the job. In some communities, a patrolman may earn as little as \$2,500 a year, while in larger cities, beginning officers may earn \$3,600 annually.

The top pay of experienced patrolmen seldom goes above \$5,000 a year. However, earnings increase as one advances to a higher rank such as police lieutenant, captain, inspector, or chief of police. Women earn the same, rank for rank, as men do.

Advantages are (1) the field offers opportunities for public service; (2) a prolonged education is not required, although college men in this field, as in others, often have better chances for advancement; and (3) many communities have pension funds and other benefits, in addition to salary, for their police employees.

Disadvantages include the relatively low pay in certain areas for such a responsible job. Occasionally, the work is dangerous. Too, policemen must often be on duty at night, Sunday, and on holidays.

Further information can be obtained at your local police department. Young women interested in this field can secure a pamphlet entitled "The Outlook for Women in Police Work," Women's Bureau Bulletin No. 231, for 15 cents in coin, from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

Historical Backgrounds -- Party Conventions

THE 1956 national political conventions to nominate candidates for the Presidency will be unusual in some respects.

First, the Republicans are going to meet in San Francisco, and the Democrats are to get together in Chicago. The last time the two parties chose different cities was in 1940, when the Republicans went to Philadelphia and the Democrats to Chicago.

Second, eastern and midwestern cities generally are favored over those of the far west. The Democrats went to Denver—once—in 1908. San Francisco had the Democrats in 1920, and will be entertaining its second convention when the Republicans arrive.

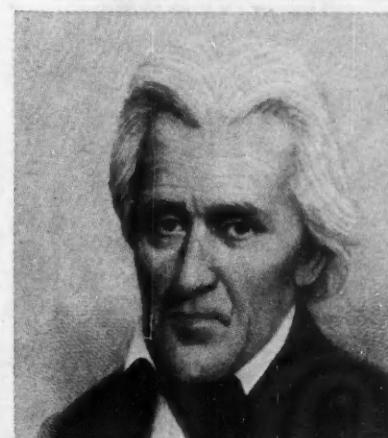
Third, the Republicans plan to start meeting August 20. The Democrats also expect to convene in August (although they may meet in late July). Since 1856 at least, June or July have been the traditional convention months. In the past 100 years there has been only one August convention—in 1864—when the Democrats met in Chicago. The late date the Republicans have chosen for 1956 is causing some controversy.

Those who favor the August date say: "Travel was slow and difficult in earlier times, and a candidate needed time to get around the country to present his views to the voters. The early nominating convention was desirable then. Today, it is no longer necessary. Voters can follow the conventions over radio and television, and, later, hear campaign speeches without leaving their homes."

"The airplane, modern trains, and automobiles make it possible for candidates to visit all areas of the country quickly. In the period between late August and the November election, a candidate can make himself known to far more people than in earlier years."

Those who are opposed to the August date say: "A late convention probably gives the party in power an advantage—especially if the President in office is running for re-election. The people know him well and are familiar with his record."

"The candidate of the party not in power must work hard, as a rule, to make himself known throughout



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
PRESIDENT Andrew Jackson helped to start national political conventions, and they are now a vital part of our political system.

the country. Radio and television help, of course, but that is not enough. The out-of-office candidate must travel constantly, far more than the man already in office. It is true that travel facilities are better than they were in the past, but not enough so to offset the disadvantages of a shortened campaign period."

It is interesting to recall that the conventions were not part of the process of choosing a president when government began under our Constitution. Parties on a national scale developed only gradually.

For many years, opposing groups of Congress held caucuses (meetings) and chose the Presidential candidates. Such a method gave the people little or no voice in making the nominations.

Dissatisfied political leaders across the country began to organize on a national scale in the 1820's. Voters got together in cities and towns to choose delegates for state conventions, and these in turn named national delegates.

In 1831, the anti-Masonic party (a third party which later disappeared) held what may be called the first real national convention in Baltimore. In 1832, Democrat Andrew Jackson became the first President to call a national convention. It was held in Baltimore and re-nominated Jackson for a second term, which he won in the following election.

Since Jackson's day, the national convention has been the accepted method of nominating candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency.